

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5328

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USUN NEW YORK 260

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT LOUIS 0578

FROM AMBASSADOR MANHARD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MP, KN

SUBJECT: ANOTHER NORTH KOREAN VISIT TO MAURITIUS

REF: A) PORT LOUIS 0520; B) STATE 131759

1. LATEST CHAPTER IN NORTH KOREAN EFFORTS TO WOO MAURITIUS IS CURRENT VISIT OF SENIOR DELEGATION FROM PYONGYANG HEADED BY KIM SOK-KI CHAIRMAN OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE, FORMER AMBASSADOR TO ALBANIA, AND LEADER OF NORTH KOREAN DELEGATION TO UNESCO GENERAL MEETING LAST YEAR, ACCOMPANIED BY CHUNG NAM-HO AND KIM SUN-JEI, FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS AND MRS. TANG CHONG-SUN, INTERPRETER. DELEGATION ARRIVED JULY 14. IT IS SCHEDULED TO DEPART JULY 18. THEY MET WITH PRIME MINISTER JULY 15 AND ARE SCHEDULE

HE WILL TAKE FOLLOWING LINE: BOTH NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA SHOULD BE TREATED EQUALLY AND BOTH SHOULD APPLY FOR UN MEMBERSHIP IN PATTERN OF TWO GERMANIES; NORTH KOREA SHOULD SEEK TO RESOLVE PROBLEMS BETWEEN IT AND SOUTH KOREA BY DIALOG AND NOT BY FORCE. RAMGOOLAM REMARKED TO ME THAT HE DOUBTED THAT HIS POSITION WOULD GO DOWN VERY WELL IN PYONGYANG, BUT THAT HE INTENDED TO STICK WITH THAT LINE NO MATTER WHAT HIS POTENTIAL HOSTS MIGHT SAY.

3. I INFORMED RAMGOOLAM ABOUT OUR POSITION RE US COMMAND PER REFTEL B, TAKING PAINS TO POINT OUT THAT PRESENT US FORCES IN SOUTH KOREA WOULD REMAIN ON BILATERAL BASIS EVEN IF ALL CONCERNED SHOULD AGREE ON OUR FORMULA FOR A UN COMMAND AND THAT OUR POSITION ON RETENTION OF US FORCES IN SOUTH KOREA IS QUITE FIRM.

4. RAMGOOLAM INDICATED TO ME THAT HE REMAINS RATHER WARY OF NORTH KOREAN INTENTIONS HERE AND IN GENERAL. ALTHOUGH ROKG MAY STILL BE UNWILLING TO MAKE ANY EFFORTS TO COUNTER NORTH KOREAN PRESSURE HERE, I THINK MORE THAN EVER THAT ROKG IS UNWISE TO LET THE NORTH KOREANS HAVE A CLEAR FIELD HERE AND MISS THE USEFUL OPPORTUNITY TO DEFEND THEIR OWN INTEREST WITH RAMGOOLAM. HEATLEY

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